

Randolph School Offers Chance For Team Teaching



UNIQUE for planning is the teacher platform that allows privacy with accessibility.



TEAM TEACHING at work with Miss Ann Orth's fifth grade class. The flexible wall divider is shown in the center which opens the room to hold 150 students.



WORK OF combined effort (above) between architect, William Lindhout, and his aggregate man, Fritz Iselin of Detroit Marble Company, and a second grade boy, who was the artist on the original drawing depicting the story of the happy, polka-dotted giraffe who formed a bridge for the little children to cross the river to go to school. The mural is out of lovely shades of aggregate and was a gift to the school from Lindhout. He did not anticipate it would be a time consuming project. After the first effort, Iselin and Lindhout discovered they had spent six hours just doing the boat.

By MYRA CHANDLER

The little Livonia School House has really changed its facade and it couldn't be more elegant. In addition to being more beautiful, it is all more practical, and what is most important to the community of school houses—more economical.

In fact, the Randolph School House in the mid-west section of the City is one of the few that came in under bid, \$15.85 a foot. Not only did it come in under bid, but it was finished for the opening of school.

The architect is William Lindhout of Livonia. The school offered a real challenge to Lindhout in that the administration wanted it designed, not in the traditional manner, but to be flexible enough to be used for team teaching.

Flexibility is the key-note of the entire school. This is a flexibility coupled with a toughness of material that should make this one of the easiest schools to maintain in the entire system.

The outside of the building is of aggregate surfacing that can take a beating, but

is attractive. Rumors have it the entire building is air conditioned. It will be the coolest building in Livonia during the hot summer months (just right for year-round school), but it is not air-conditioned. It has a natural fresh air system that works in conjunction with the heating unit. Fluorescent lighting is utilized so as to appear to be daytime lighting without glare.

Noise and the cost of hardwood flooring is cut to a minimum with the use of a new tough, fibre carpet that resists wear as well as soil. All the custodian has to do is to vacuum it, as opposed to using floor wax nightly.

One of the areas the carpet is used to advantage is in the kindergarten room, where little folks can sit on the floor—and in the stair-step audio-visual room where they can sit on tiers as opposed to seats or chairs.

Flexibility is noticeable in the classroom with the "panel doors" that a small child can push back individually against the wall to open up two or three rooms for "team teachers."

There are three first grade, three second-grade and six fourth-grade classrooms. Teachers in lecturing can handle 150 students in this fashion and the whole concept of teaching is upgraded in certain the lecture the classes can, phases of the work. After with a flick of the wrist, divide into their work areas again.

Dr. Virginia Roberts, the principal, is delighted with the arrangement and feels the students in her school will be the beneficiaries of the modern school building.

Every bit of space has been used. In the central work area, including library, science workshop, study-stalls, audio-visual auditori-

um, and recreation-lunch room area, there is an overhanging platform where the teachers are able to have their lunch and plan their team-teaching. This is used for conferences daily. The sound is diffused and the lighting perfect for the area below as well as the teacher-work area.

Dr. Roberts welcomes visitors to see the school and she will take them on a conducted tour if they call ahead of time. After completing such a tour the sense of wishing one could return to the third grade is more than just nostalgic.

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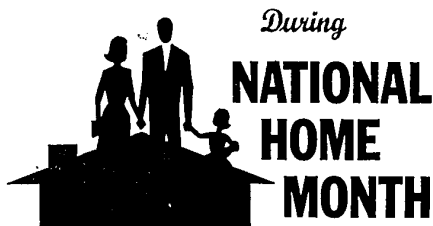
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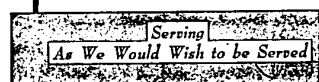
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